

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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*****For Immediate Release*****

Date: April 3, 2008
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“Subject Arrested By WSP After Threatening A Trooper”

A subject was arrested today at the Washington State Patrol (WSP) District office in Tacoma after making continuous threats to a WSP Trooper.

On April 2, 2008 Jeremy E. Bates of Roy was stopped by a trooper for running a red light and not using a turn signal while making a lane change. During the traffic stop it was determined that Bates was driving on a suspended license. He was arrested and taken into custody. Bates' vehicle was towed and a 30 day impound hold was placed on his car, due to a previous charge for driving on a suspended license. The trooper cleared the stop and transported Bates to a gas station where he was cited for the charges and released.

About one hour later, state patrol dispatchers were advised by other area dispatchers that Bates had called and was making threats toward the trooper. Bates continued to tie up 9-1-1 emergency lines, swearing and making threats that he was going to harm the trooper. Bates was stating he was upset because his car was towed. Bates continued to call the 9-1-1 lines saying he wanted to file a complaint and that he wanted to get his car back. During the calls Bates was extremely aggressive toward the dispatchers, continuing to swear and make threats.

WSP detectives immediately began to investigate the threats Bates made against the trooper. After hearing several tape recorded 9-1-1 calls, it was determined that Bates would be taken into custody for questioning. Bates was driven by his wife to the Washington State Patrol District office in Tacoma where he was going to obtain a hardship request form, to try and get his car back. Bates was arrested and taken into custody for questioning. After further investigation and questioning Bates was booked into the Pierce County Jail on suspicion of intimidating a public servant.

This is not the first time Bates has made threats to officers. He is prohibited from having any contact with the Roy Police Department as a result of threats against their officers as well.

Bates was on the 9-1-1 lines with dispatchers for several minutes tying up the lines, which prevented other emergency calls from being handled. These lines are strictly for emergency use only. The WSP takes threats made against their employees seriously. Threatening a law enforcement officer is a serious crime and those that choose to do so will be investigated to the fullest extent of the law.

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